

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION**  
**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST**  
Mid-Pacific Region  
Lahontan Basin Area Office

**Project Name:** Prosser Creek Service Gate Modification and Gate Slide Replacement

**CEC Number:** LO – 2011-1040

**Cost Authority:** A50-1912-3200-001-93-0-0-2

**Date:** March 8, 2012

**Exclusion Category:** *516 DM 14.5 C.3* – Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

**Nature of Action:** LBAO is proposing to modify components of the service and emergency gates at Prosser Creek Dam.

In the dam outlets, housed just below the gate house, the proposed action is to modify the bottom edge of the service gate leafs by welding a steel bar specially designed to eradicate cavitation at 12 CFS and greater. This modification is designed to meet Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) obligations, Sections 9.C.5(a) and (b) to provide for dam releases between 0 CFS and 30 CFS without cavitation. Work access will be obtained from walking up the outlet works tunnel.

In addition, the existing slides and seats that guide the emergency and service gates up and down need to be replaced. The emergency and service gates will be held in an open position to replace the existing slides and seats with self lubricating slides and seats. This modification will prevent gates from sticking under unbalanced pressure. Work access will be obtained from walking up the outlet works tunnel.

To prevent a reduction of the storage capacity of the reservoir during proposed gate modification, a temporary bulk head will be installed in the dam inlet by hard-hat divers. Water will be diverted through a hose that is connected to a valve installed on the bulk head. Use of this hose will maintain sufficient water flows below the dam. Once proposed modifications are complete, the bulk head will be removed.

No ground disturbing activities are required in order to complete the proposed modifications.

Proposed dam modifications are anticipated to begin June 2013 and completion is expected by

October 1, 2013.

**Location:** The project site is located at Prosser Creek Dam.

NE1/4 SW1/4 S.30, T18N, R17E M.D.M

**Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion**

1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. (40 CFR 1502.3).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E) and 43 CFR 46.215 (c)].	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
3. This action will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
4. This action would have significant impacts such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O.11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
5. The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
6. This action would establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___

8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
9. This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
10. This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
11. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
12. This action would limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
13. This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
14. This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___

**NEPA Action Recommended:** Categorical Exclusion  EA \_\_\_ EIS \_\_\_

**Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:**

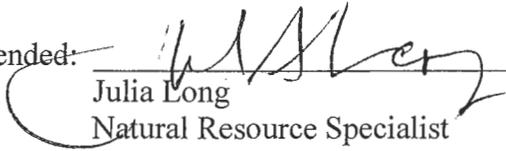
See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Locke Hahne  
Manager, Operations & Maintenance  
Division

3/8/2012  
Date

Recommended:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Long  
Natural Resource Specialist

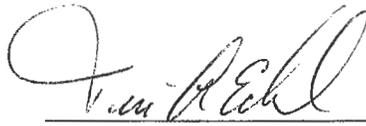
3-8-12  
Date

Concurrence:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Edwards  
Resource Division Manager

3/9/2012  
Date

Approved:

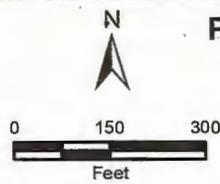
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri Edwards  
Deputy Area Manager

3/12/2012  
Date



**RECLAMATION**  
*Managing Water in the West*

Lahontan Basin Area Office  
705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701



**Prosser Creek Service Gate Modification and Gate Slide Replacements**  
NE1/4 SW1/4 S.30, T18N, R17E M.D.M

## Long, Julia A

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**From:** Bruce, Brandee E  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2012 9:40 AM  
**To:** Long, Julia A  
**Cc:** BOR MPR Cultural Resources Section; Hahne, Locke E.  
**Subject:** 12-LBAO-030, Prosser Creek Dam 106

Julia,

Re: 12-LBAO-030 Prosser Creek Dam Service Gate and Slide Modification Project

Location: Prosser Creek Dam, Truckee, Nevada County, California.

Exclusion Category: *516 DM 14.5 C.3* – Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

The proposed undertaking to modify components of the service and emergency gates at Prosser Creek Dam has no potential to cause effects to historic properties pursuant to the regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.3(a)(1). The proposed action is to replace the existing slides and seats that guide the emergency and service gates with self lubricating slides and seats, and install a steel bar on the bottom edge of the slide gate. The purpose of the modification is to prevent gates from sticking under unbalanced pressure and prevent cavitation. A temporary bulk head will be installed in the dam inlet by hard-hat divers, and water will be diverted through a hose connected to a valve on the bulk head. Once work is completed, the bulk head will be removed. Work access will be obtained through existing access roads on the crest and sides of the dam and from walking up the outlet works tunnel. No ground disturbing activities are required in order to complete the proposed modifications.

As the proposed undertaking has no potential to affect historic properties, I concur with item 8 in the Categorical Exclusion Checklist for LO-2011-1040, dated November 18, 2011. This email is intended to convey the conclusion of the Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for the CEC. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this action.

BranDee Bruce  
Architectural Historian  
Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA. 95825  
Phone: (916) 978-5039  
Fax: (916) 978-5055

**Long, Julia A**

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**From:** Rivera, Patricia L  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 7:56 AM  
**To:** Long, Julia A  
**Subject:** RE: ITA Request - Prosser Creek Service Gate Modification and Gate Slide Replacement

LBAO is proposing to modify components of the service and emergency gates at Prosser Creek Dam.

Julia,

I reviewed the proposed action to modify the bottom edge of the service gate leafs in the dam outlets, housed just below the gate house, by welding a steel bar specially designed to eradicate cavitation at 12 CFS and greater. This modification is designed to meet Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) obligations, Sections 9.C.5(a) and (b) to provide for dam releases between 0 CFS and 30 CFS without cavitation. Work access will be obtained from walking up the outlet works tunnel.

In addition, the existing slides and seats that guide the emergency and service gates up and down need to be replaced. The emergency and service gates will be held in an open position to replace the existing slides and seats with self lubricating slides and seats. This modification will prevent gates from sticking under unbalanced pressure. Work access will be obtained from walking up the outlet works tunnel.

To prevent a reduction of the storage capacity of the reservoir during proposed gate modification, a temporary bulk head will be installed in the dam inlet by hard-hat divers. Water will be diverted through a hose that is connected to a valve installed on the bulk head. Use of this hose will maintain sufficient water flows below the dam. Once proposed modifications are complete, the bulk head will be removed.

No ground disturbing activities are required in order to complete the proposed modifications.

Proposed dam modifications are anticipated to begin June 2013 and completion is expected by October 1, 2013.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment approximately 20 miles NNE of the project location.

Patricia